JUN 21 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: :   Date: June 21, 2001
KAR W. YUNG, ET AL.   :
Serial No.   08/949,988   :   Group Art Unit: 3644
Filed: October 14, 1997   :
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MAXIMIZING   :   Examiner: Tien Dinh
        SATELLITE CONSTELLATION COVERAGE

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

___ Applicant petitions for an extension of time for one months(s) to respond to the Office Action dated
____ . If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor. Fee $ _____

____ An extension for _____ months(s) has already been secured; the fee paid therefor of .
is deducted from the total fee due for the total months of extension now requested.   : $ _____

Extension fee due with this request $ _____

X___ Applicant believes that no extension of time is required to respond to the Office Action dated March 28, 2001.
However, this conditional petition is being made to provide for the possibility that applicant has inadvertently
overlooked the need for a petition for extension of time.

X___ No additional fee for claims is required.

____ The fee for claims has been calculated as shown below:

	CLAIMS AS AMENDED				
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	21 minus	21 =	0 x	$ 18.00	$ 0.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	3 minus	3 =	0 x	$ 80.00	$ 0.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS			+	$ 270.00	$
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:					$ 0.00

Charge $ 0.00 to Deposit Account No. 50-0383 of Hughes Electronics Corporation, El Segundo, California. Please
charge any additional fees for claims or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0383. If any additional extension fee
is required, please charge to Deposit Account No. 50-0383. **This form is submitted in triplicate**.

Respectfully submitted,

Vijayalakshmi D. Duraiswamy
Vijayalakshmi D. Duraiswamy, Registration No.: 31,605
Attorney for Applicant(s) and Assignee
(Hughes Electronics Corporation)

Certification under 37 CFR 1.10 (if applicable)

__EF740971232US_____   _____ June 21, 2001
EXPRESS MAIL mailing number   Date of Deposit
I hereby certify that this application is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee"
service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT, Commissioner of
Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.
Janet Bollinger_____   *Janet Bollinger*
(Type or printed name of person mailing application)   (Signature of person mailing application)
CUSTOMER NUMBER 020991
HUGHES ELECTRONICS CORPORATION
Bldg. 001, M/S A109
PO Box 956
El Segundo, CA   90245-0956
Telephone: 310-662-9919

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Date: June 21, 2001

KAR W. YUNG, et al.

Serial No.:   08/949,988   Examiner: Tien Dinh

Filed: October 14, 1997   Group Art Unit: 3644

For: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MAXIMIZING
SATELLITE CONSTELLATION COVERAGE**

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner of Patents
Washington D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated March 28, 2001 (Paper No. 27), in the above-identified application. This response is timely filed as it is being submitted within the three (3) month period set for response.

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 21 are currently pending in this Application with claims 1, 10, and 20 being independent. The Examiner rejected claims 1-21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Draim in view of Westerlund. Applicants' respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejection of these claims.

Applicants' claimed invention as required by claims 1, 10, and 20 is neither taught nor suggested by Draim or Westerlund. The Examiner's reliance on these two references constitutes impermissible hindsight reconstruction.

Applicants' claimed invention relates to a method and system for maximizing satellite constellation coverage at predetermined local times for a set of predetermined geographic locations. The satellite constellation has a first coverage area defined by at